Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] A network management system, such as NMC 110, discovers devices and their attributes in a network. Apart from an Internet Protocol (IP) address, devices may have Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, unique and local Domain Name Server (DNS) names, SNMP system names, ~~Windows~~™ WINDOWS™ operating system names and several other discriminators. A user at a node within any given network can select a device uniquely using one of a choice of metrics. Based on those discoveries, the network management system determines the physical topology of the network.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] Furthermore, the present invention is not limited to use in a "trusted" data network. The present invention is also applicable to external data networks where the identification of unauthorized accesses is required. Both the system and method of the present invention are also applicable to other data network services. For example, in a network running an ~~Oracle~~™ ORACLE™ database, created by Oracle, where sensitive data is managed, there may be a need to ensure that only authorized users access the service over the data network.